

Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
12/14/08 – 1/10/09

DISTRICT 1

COs Matthew Eberly and Denny Gast have been working complaints of blockage of the snowmobile grade in Chassell and Chassell Township for the past few weeks. Five warnings have been given for blocking the trail with vehicles and snow. Most residents along the trail are compliant with the State Land Use rules, allowing access for everyone to use the trail.

COs Doug Hermanson and Jason Wicklund worked a fishing contest on Vermillac Lake this past weekend. Three hundred forty (340) entries were registered on the competition. One ticket was issued for a fish violation and law enforcement action was taken against one angler for marijuana possession.

Sgt. Marc Pomroy and CO Jason Wicklund conducted a late night patrol of a local lake to address an ongoing complaint of unattended lines. The COs located 16 lines that were scattered all around the lake, many with no identification on them. As the COs watched, a group of four individuals came from their cabin on ORVs and patrolled the lake checking for flags. When contacted, the individuals were driving unregistered ORVs, had no helmets and were riding double. One of the individuals was also operating while suspended and had been previously ticketed for doing so. For the third time in three years, enforcement action was taken.

CO Dave Painter and PCO Kevin Postma completed an investigation from the firearm deer season. One subject was ticketed for using the tag of another and a second subject was ticketed for lending his tag to another.

CO Brian Bacon and Sgt. Marc Pomroy contacted an angler on Cowboy Lake in Dickinson County. The subject was found to be fishing with four lines and also had four valid warrants from Dickinson County. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon was watching anglers on a local lake when he observed a car drive up and set out a string of tip ups. The subject also started fishing from the driver's seat of the car. CO Bacon contacted the subject to address the number of lines that were put out when he observed a marijuana pipe on the front seat. A search of the car revealed more marijuana and enforcement action was taken.

CO Dave Painter received a complaint from the Iron County Sheriff's Department of a dog caught in a leg hold trap. CO Painter responded to the scene and removed the trap from the leg of a black lab.

CO Marv Gerlach reported that one subject arrested for taking a deer illegally was sentenced in court. He paid \$1500 in court costs and fines. He also had his hunting

privileges revoked for four years. A second subject paid \$1800 and also had his hunting privileges revoked for four years.

CO Denny Gast worked a fish patrol on Otter Lake during a recent fish contest. Fish activity was slow, with only a few pike being caught. About 150 participants were registered on the lake.

COs Jason Wicklund and Doug Hermanson patrolled the Porcupine Mountains checking for snowmobile compliance. Overall, the snowmobile numbers were down but several violations were encountered for trail permit and registration issues.

COs David Painter and Jason Wicklund set up and watched two individuals fishing after dark. Several ORV violations were witnessed and a check of the ice shanty and two individuals turned up ten lines, a short walleye and several other violations.

DISTRICT 2

CO Derek Miller was stopped by a complainant who stated someone had just stolen his snowmobile. Within an hour, COs Derek Miller, Mike Hammill, Bob Madden, and Robert Crisp had recovered the machine and had a suspect in custody. The subject was intoxicated, had no helmet, and was driving along the shoulder of the road drinking a beer.

CO Derek Miller, while checking a meat possessor, found a kill tag on a small buck that had a name he believed was not a hunter. CO Miller interviewed the son of that person, who confessed to shooting the deer and having his mother buy a tag for it.

COs Mike Hammill and Robert Crisp contacted a hunter coming out of the woods who had just baited a bow stand. CO Crisp observed blood in the back of the hunter's truck, but when asked if he had shot anything, the response was negative. On a follow up visit to the hunter's residence later that night, he confessed to shooting a deer and not tagging it.

COs Mike Hammill and Robert Crisp responded to a trespass complaint and when the COs arrived at the scene, followed snowmobile tracks and contacted a subject putting up a tree stand. The landowner met the COs and again advised that no one had permission to be on his land. Enforcement action taken.

COs Reid Roeske, Mike Hammill and PCO Robert Crisp worked a group patrol on Little Bay DeNoc. Several violations were found including too many lines and unattended lines. They also assisted Gladstone Public Safety in apprehending a snowmobile operator who was suspected of being involved with the breaking and entering of several ice shanties on the bay. The COs followed the subject to the shoreline where local authorities contacted him.

CO Reid Roeske apprehended a subject who shot a deer this past week. The subject, when contacted, stated that he didn't get a deer during deer season and figured it would be okay to take one out of season, since there were so many deer. The deer and the subject's rifle were seized. Warrants are being sought.

COs Reid Roeske, Mike Hammill and PCO Robert Crisp worked the bays of Lake Michigan in Delta County, and found three subjects who set 16 tip ups. Tickets were issued.

A group snowmobile patrol with the Luce County Sheriff's Department resulted in four arrests for registrations and trail permit violations.

CO Derek Miller attempted to stop an operator of an unregistered snowmobile at a stop sign in Luce County. They recognized CO Miller as an officer and fled down the trail. CO Miller unloaded his snowmobile and followed the track to a wooded area where the operator ditched the machine, then followed the tracks through the woods into the waiting hands of a Luce County deputy. The operator was operating while suspended seven times with warrants. In another flee and elude case, CO Derek Miller attempted to stop two machines without trail permits. The first one sped off, but before the second one could take off, CO Miller reached over and hit the kill switch. After issuing a ticket to the second operator, CO Miller followed the first machine's tracks along the trail for about a mile where the machine had broken down. It appeared another snowmobiler had picked up the operator. The owner was found and enforcement action taken.

DISTRICT 3

COs Eric Bottorff and Matt Theunick assisted at the scene of a fatal snowmobile accident that occurred on the snowmobile trail in Cheboygan County. The incident involved an 11 year old victim and is still under investigation.

Sgt. Greg Drogowski stopped a snowmobiler for running through a stop sign on the snowmobile trail. He also had an expired registration and two windshields – one which belonged to his girlfriend, who had been in an accident. The subject became irate when questioned about the accident and CO Michael Feagan responded as back up. The girlfriend then came down the trail, nearly falling off the sled when stopped. She complained of injuries, but did not want an ambulance, or to discuss the issue with the boyfriend, as they had gotten into a verbal confrontation after the accident. An ambulance was called anyway, and it was determined she had a possible broken leg. She was transported for further medical care, information was gathered for the accident report, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Torsky and PCO Matt Theunick received information of a blood trail leading away from an elk kill site. Evidence collected at the scene indicated that the hunter who had legally harvested a bull elk had actually shot two elk. The COs will be taking the case to the prosecutor for review.

CO Bill Webster responded to a complaint of an untagged deer in the backyard of a residence. After several tries, CO Webster was finally able to find someone at home. CO Webster received a confession from one of the occupants, who said, "I thought if you got it home without a tag on it you did not have to tag it." Enforcement action taken. CO Bill Webster followed up on a revoked hunter who had bought an antlerless deer license while still revoked and issued him a ticket.

CO Carl Vanderwall responded to a trespass complaint in Emmet County. CO Vanderwall located several hunters in the area of the complaint who were coyote hunting. One of the hunters possessed a loaded firearm and received a ticket for the violation. CO Vanderwall also ticketed seven snowmobile operators and two ORV operators for various violations.

CO Duane Budreau stopped a pair of snowmobilers near Pellston. One of the subjects did not have a trail permit on his machine but produced one half of a permit from his wallet. Further investigation revealed that the other half of the permit was on the other machine. Tickets were written.

CO Andrea Erratt ticketed a man who had put loose trash and newspapers in the back of his pickup truck. As he drove down US-31, trash was flying everywhere.

CO Andrea Erratt worked a snowmobile enforcement patrol along the trails in the Jordan River Valley and Chandler Hills area. One individual was ticketed for no helmet and warned for no trail permit. One snowmobile operator passed several of his friends on the wrong side of the road while going around corners, and he was ticketed for careless operation of a snowmobile. Other snowmobile operators were stopped who were climbing hills and causing erosion off trails in the Jordan River Valley. A ticket was issued for operating a snowmobile off road in the Jordan River Valley.

DISTRICT 4

COs Brian Lebel and Jeff Ginn were patrolling for muzzleloading hunters in northern Newaygo County. They were headed down a dead end road when an ORV emerged from a side trail with a doe on the back. The deer had a 2007 antlerless tag on it. The hunter had applied for a 2008 tag and had been approved but never purchased it. Enforcement action was taken.

Newaygo County Sheriff's Deputies responded to a domestic dispute. At the residence they found an untagged deer. CO Ryan Rademacher investigated and discovered that the shooter had taken the doe with a St. Joseph County antlerless tag. He did not put the tag on the deer anyway. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Wells investigated a Newaygo County complaint of a live deer being kept inside a private home. CO Wells went to the residence and found a fawn of the year doe laying on a pillow in the living room. The homeowner stated he had found the deer as a fawn and decided to raise it. CO Wells explained the serious consequences of

possessing a deer illegally. A ticket was issued to the subject for not having a rehabilitation license.

CO Carla Soper, Manistee County, received final disposition on a deer case from the fall. All four subjects involved pled guilty, resulting in restitution for the deer totaling \$4000. The subjects also had their hunting licenses revoked until January of 2012.

CO Steve Converse found a subject with an overlimit of pike on Portage Lake. The subject claimed he did not know the pike regulations had changed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jair Kollasch checked an angler fishing in the pouring rain on Lake Cadillac two days after Christmas. The subject had an overlimit of panfish and was surprised to see a conservation officer out in that weather.

A Newaygo County complaint was received of coyote hunters trespassing. The complainant watched as a group of vehicles pulled up and released dogs on his neighbor's land. The hunters then unloaded snowmobiles with gun scabbards on them and proceeded to drive across the complainant's property. COs Ryan Rademacher, Jeff Ginn and Sgt. Scott Wilk responded. After searching the area, the hunters were rounded up and enforcement action on the trespass was taken.

CO Ryan Rademacher contacted a subject on a Newaygo County lake with an overlimit of blue gills, no fishing license, and an outstanding assault warrant. Enforcement action was taken.

Responding to complaints of ORVs on the roadway, CO Jim Espinoza, Mason County, located a subject driving a snowmobile on a local lake without a helmet. CO Espinoza stopped the subject as he was returning to his vehicle for additional gear. CO Espinoza asked the subject if he had a helmet, and was informed that it was in his vehicle. CO Espinoza gave the subject a warning and left the area, only to find the same operator operating without a helmet an hour later. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jim Espinoza was on patrol when he saw a very significant amount of smoke and investigated. CO Espinoza found the source which was a burn pile that contained branches, three sofas, two chairs, carpeting, tires, numerous five gallon buckets, and household debris. The owner was located and enforcement action was taken.

CO Angie Greenway, Lake County, responded to a deer shooting complaint where several deer had been shot on New Year's Day. The complainant witnessed a subject shoot from a vehicle onto her property, and found several freshly killed deer. CO Greenway responded to the scene and found the kill sites and the deer had been removed. CO Greenway patrolled the area and located a vehicle fitting the description near the scene. CO Greenway investigated and found the subject in possession of a gun shot deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse received information of a deer being shot with a firearm before season. CO Converse investigated and found the subject had taken a deer with a crossbow two days before firearm season. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sean Kehoe assisted the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Department with the execution of a search warrant of a residence. The owner of the residence was arrested on drug related charges. Another subject inside the residence was a fugitive and was ticketed by CO Kehoe for possession of an Eastern Massasauga rattlesnake and two baby snapping turtles he had taken from the wild.

DISTRICT 5

CO Matt Liestenfeltz assisted a county deputy with the pick up of a subject on a felony warrant. While at the subject's residence, CO Liestenfeltz observed two deer hanging that had not been tagged. The subject was located and arrested on the warrant. The follow-up investigation led to additional charges for several subjects for the illegal deer.

While COs Bobbi Bashore and Rebecca Hopkins investigated a baiting complaint, the landowner showed the COs a freshly killed deer he claimed had been killed several days earlier. The investigation led to a search of the residence where a significant amount of marijuana was seized. The COs interviewed several additional subjects who had helped butcher the deer. Warrants have been sought for several subjects for possession of an illegal deer, using bait, and possession of marijuana.

CO Mike Hearn responded to a complaint of a subject driving down the road in his pick-up truck with a rifle out the window. CO Hearn located the vehicle parked in the area. The subject was hunting on private property without permission, without a license, and admitted to having an uncased rifle in the truck.

CO Mike Hearn observed a group of anglers taking pike. The group broke up and left the ice, leaving out several tip ups. CO Hearn contacted one of the subjects as he left the ice. The subject saw the CO and attempted to put one of the pike back into a hole in the ice. The pike was not a legal length and was seized. Enforcement action was taken.

On the last day of muzzleloader deer season, CO Joel Lundberg was patrolling on his snowmobile when he observed a subject carrying a muzzleloader who was not wearing hunter orange. As CO Lundberg approached, the subject got into his truck and started to drive away. CO Lundberg stopped the truck using his snowmobile's emergency lights. Upon questioning, the subject admitted that he had shot at a deer from where he was stopped but claimed he had missed. CO Lundberg returned to the spot and located a freshly killed doe. The subject had been trespassing on private property when he shot the doe and did not have an antlerless deer license. Enforcement action taken.

While off duty, CO Warren MacNeill observed a pick-up truck with a large load of sugar beets. CO MacNeill was able to locate the property in Alcona County where the bait

was being distributed. The next day, CO MacNeill went to the property and found the truckload of beets being hunted over and issued the owner a ticket.

CO Warren MacNeill investigated a complaint of a deer being shot with a firearm over an illegal bait pile on New Year's Day. The subject tried many different stories to convince CO MacNeill that she had not done anything wrong. Finally, the truth came out and she admitted to killing the deer illegally and was issued a ticket.

CO Joel Lundberg received a call at 2:00 a.m. from the sheriff's department regarding their response to a suspicious vehicle complaint. The deputy had located the vehicle and driver and found the driver gutting a deer. The subject told the deputies he had shot the deer earlier in the day and had just finished tracking it. CO Lundberg responded and interviewed the subject who confessed to shooting it after dark with a crossbow and spotlight. The subject was lodged for the illegal deer and possession of marijuana.

While on patrol, CO Brian Engelhard observed four snowmobiles being operated illegally on a state highway. Upon stopping the snowmobiles, he learned that two of the four operators had suspended driver's licenses. CO Engelhard arrested the two suspended operators and lodged them in the county jail.

DISTRICT 6

While on patrol in the late antlerless deer season, CO Ken Lowell responded to a complaint of a hunter who just witnessed his neighbor shoot an antlerless deer and then a buck with a firearm. Upon contact with the individual, the CO asked if he had shot any deer. The hunter stated he had shot two antlerless deer and then dragged them with his truck back to the blind. When asked about shooting the buck, the hunter stated it did not have antlers when he shot it. Further investigation led to a confession in regard to the killing of the six point buck and an antlerless deer. The hunter did not have tags for either deer and was a felon in possession of a firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Lowell was checking a small remote lake in Montcalm County for ice fishing activity. The first two anglers he checked stated they had not had much luck. A look in their buckets proved otherwise. One angler had 29 bluegills over his limit and his partner had five bluegills over his limit. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking Mud Lake in Montcalm County, CO Ken Lowell watched as two anglers tended two jig poles and three tip ups each. The CO contacted the anglers and asked if they knew the law on how many lines they were able to use. Both men stated that they knew they could only use two but they never see the game warden on their lake. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking a lake in Montcalm County, CO Ken Lowell checked an ice shanty with two tip ups set near it. The CO found the shanty to be empty. The CO followed tracks

to a nearby cabin and located the owner of the shanty. Enforcement action was taken for the unattended lines.

CO Larn Strawn assisted deputies with the Isabella County Sheriff's Department with an investigation of an illegal deer. The deputies arrested the subject for domestic violence and attempted murder. While conducting the arrest, deputies discovered an untagged deer in the trunk of the subject's vehicle. The subject had taken the deer with a firearm during the closed season. CO Strawn recovered the deer and processed the crime scene, taking photographs and seizing evidence. The subject was charged with the illegal deer.

COs Phil Hudson and Ken Lowell were investigating an antlerless deer taken out of season and upon arriving at the residence observed scattered corn in the back yard. While CO Hudson was questioning subjects at the residence, CO Lowell discovered a blood trail that led to a dead deer. The name of a subject was obtained and the investigation continues. Enforcement action was taken for the bait.

COs Phil Hudson and Jeremy Payne were patrolling areas of coyote hunting activity when their patrol truck was spotted and vehicles began leaving. CO Payne dropped CO Hudson off in the section where the hounds were running a coyote and left the area. CO Hudson made observations from a concealed location and witnessed multiple violations. After the coyote and hounds passed, CO Hudson exited the wooded ditch and contacted several hunters. Enforcement action was taken for three uncased firearms and one loaded firearm in motor vehicles. Two subjects were also cited for hunter orange violations.

CO Chad Foerster and Sgt Ron Kimmerly were working in Bay County when they observed a truck stopped in the middle of the road. The COs then witnessed the driver get out and remove a large item from the bed of his truck and throw it into the ditch. The COs stopped the vehicle, and before the COs said a word the driver started shaking his head and said "you got me". The item thrown in the ditch was the bottom portion of a large shop-vac filled with deer and rabbit parts. Along with the litter violation the subject also had no hunting licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jason Smith and Seth Rhodea were investigating a baiting complaint when they heard shots coming from the woods nearby during the late antlerless season. Upon investigation, they found five deer illegally taken by five different hunters and another hunter with a loaded shotgun in his vehicle. All six subjects were ticketed for their violations and the deer and firearms were also seized.

COs Jason Smith and Seth Rhodea obtained warrants for a snowmobiler they arrested for operating under the influence, driving with a suspended license, and refusing the Breathalyzer test.

COs Jason Smith and Seth Rhodea worked anglers on North Lake and ticketed two subjects for using too many lines. They also lodged one subject with an outstanding warrant and for possession of marijuana.

COs Jason Smith and Seth Rhodea ticketed an angler for no ORV license, short walleye, no helmets, and riding double.

COs Jason Smith and Seth Rhodea received a complaint of a deer stuck in a fence and were able to free the deer without injury.

CO Joshua Wright discovered two subjects who were cutting timber illegally from a state game area in Tuscola County. Both subjects were ticketed for the violations.

While working anglers on Saginaw Bay, CO Joshua Wright arrested an angler with an outstanding warrant and fishing without a license.

DISTRICT 7

CO Andy Bauer responded to two ongoing trespass complaints in Berrien County. With the snow depths, CO Bauer was able to track and locate the subjects in both complaints and issue tickets.

CO Mike McGee requested a warrant on a subject who was in possession of a loaded firearm after legal hunting hours. CO McGee also discovered that the subject was a convicted felon. The prosecutor's office issued a three count warrant for felon in possession, felony firearm and possessing a loaded firearm after legal hunting hours.

CO Jeff Robinette and Sgt. Bob Torres conducted a follow-up investigation into a hunting accident that occurred in Cass County on New Year's Eve. The hunter was shot in the head with a slug that had ricocheted off a tree. The hunter survived.

CO Mike Mshar assisted the Michigan State Police (MSP) with the investigation of an incident where a semi-truck traveling on US-131 in Allegan County was struck by shotgun pellets. The investigation revealed that goose hunters hunting in a corn field along the highway were responsible for the incident.

CO Chuck Towns received a complaint through the Allegan State Game Area staff of a citizen reporting illegal wood cutting on state land. A witness had obtained descriptions of the truck but was unable to get a license plate. CO Towns went to the scene to investigate and take photos and while there, observed a suspicious vehicle driving by. CO Towns recorded the registration plate from this vehicle and went to the address of the registered owner. There CO Towns located one of the wood theft trucks and fresh cut firewood. After interviewing the resident and observing unique end cuts on the logs, a confession was obtained to the theft. Shortly thereafter, CO Towns stopped another truck leaving the area with firewood illegally cut from the game area, making three arrests for the period involving timber theft.

CO Chris Holmes was on patrol in Kalamazoo County when he passed a small lake within property held as a preserve. Locating a parked truck and tracks indicating anglers may have entered the property, he decided to wait them out. At 1:00 a.m. after over eight hours of waiting, he contacted two subjects leaving the property. The two anglers were in possession of 78 bluegills and both were trespassing. One of the subjects was ticketed for the fourth time at this location. The driver of the vehicle was suspended and in violation of his parole and fishing without a license.

COs Gerard Goulette and Greg Patten checked a group of waterfowl hunters on the January opener who were hunting on Lake Michigan, tucked up against the built-up shelf ice. The COs observed several spent toxic shot shell casings and were able to determine the subject responsible. A ticket was issued for the use of toxic shot while waterfowl hunting.

CO Ivan Perez checked a subject fishing from an ice shanty who provided a detailed description of the grub bait he was using. The subject explained how he has been raising the different variety of bait himself just for ice fishing. After this initial conversation, CO Perez was informed that the subject did not possess a fishing license and a ticket was issued for the offense.

DISTRICT 8

Following up on a trespass complaint, CO Rich Nickols contacted a subject who had three deer hanging at his residence. The subject admitted to shooting two deer and borrowing his brother's kill tag to put on one of the deer. The subject also admitted to trespassing to retrieve the illegally killed deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols responded to a complaint from the sheriff's office about a snowmobile illegally operating on the roadway. CO Nickols observed the snowmobile operator fall off of the machine while trying to negotiate a turn. CO Nickols contacted the operator and found him to be operating the snowmobile while intoxicated. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Bigger observed two snowmobiles illegally operating on the roadway and attempted to stop the operators, at which time they accelerated their machines and left the scene at a high rate of speed. CO Bigger located one of the snowmobiles hidden behind a barn and was able to track the operator, who was now on foot, to his residence. CO Bigger also contacted the second operator and received a full confession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Peter Purdy assisted local law enforcement with a domestic violence situation. The snow was so deep that the local officers could not get their patrol car to the site of the disturbance. CO Purdy transported the local officers to the scene in his four wheel drive vehicle where enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Troy Bahlau and CO Damon Owens assisted sheriff's department deputies and the MSP on a domestic violence incident where the subject was observed going door to door in a trailer park brandishing a pistol, stating he would use the firearm on anyone who got in his way. The law enforcement officers set up a perimeter around the subject's residence. The subject tried to escape out the back door but retreated back into the residence when he saw that he was surrounded by law enforcement. The subject gave up without incident and a pistol was located in a hidden compartment in the wall.

While off duty, CO Rick Villerot received a complaint from the sheriff's department of a subject trespassing and hunting over bait. CO Villerot responded to the scene to assist the deputies and conduct an investigation. CO Villerot identified the subject who was trespassing and a second subject who illegally placed the bait. Enforcement action was taken.

While working nighttime shining activity, CO Jason J. Smith and PCO Kyle Bader contacted occupants of a vehicle who were shining after the legal hours of 11:00 p.m. The subject had a loaded and uncased 30-30 rifle on the back seat, and stated that he did not get his deer yet and was getting desperate. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Brewer assisted the Hillsdale City Police with an incident of killing a deer illegally within the city limits. The investigation revealed that a subject had shot a button buck within the city limits with his archery equipment and had tagged it with a friend's license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Brewer received a complaint of a subject trespassing and hunting with a shotgun during the muzzleloading season. CO Brewer observed the subject trespass on three different properties. Upon contact, the subject had a scoped shotgun, an unregistered .45 caliber pistol, and was not wearing the required hunter orange garment. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss assisted the MSP with a case of two illegal deer that were found in a subject's garage. Further investigation revealed that the subject killed the deer with a shotgun during the muzzleloading season and had not purchased any hunting licenses for the past four years. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss contacted a non resident angler who was ice fishing without a license. The subject has two outstanding warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Al Mendez contacted two subjects hunting with shotguns during the muzzleloading season. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Prince assisted Oakland County Sheriff's Deputies on a late night complaint where the subject had shot a deer over a bait pile at approximately midnight. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Peter Purdy and PCO Kyle Bader responded to a complaint that was received on Christmas Day of a subject illegally killing a turkey. The investigation revealed that the subject had illegally killed a turkey and the subject's uncle had killed a deer and used the nephew's kill tag. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Troy Bahlau responded to a 4:00 a.m. call from the sheriff's department on a complaint that two vehicles were shining and shooting deer. Upon contact, the lead vehicle fled the scene but the second vehicle was stopped. The vehicle contained three occupants, two loaded .22 caliber rifles, two spotlights, and one freshly killed deer. Sgt. Bahlau and the deputies received information from the occupants about the subjects who were in the lead vehicle. The vehicle was impounded, the occupants were taken to jail, and warrants were sought for the occupants of the lead vehicle.

DISTRICT 9

CO Linda Scheidler issued a ticket to a subject for the third consecutive year. In 2006 the subject shot a deer with a firearm in the archery season. Part of the penalty was loss of deer hunting privileges until 2010. In 2007, the subject purchased two firearm deer licenses while revoked. After being notified by Station 20, CO Scheidler contacted the subject and issued him a ticket for purchasing a license while revoked. He was then prohibited from purchasing any hunting or trapping licenses until 2010. In the fall of 2008 the subject purchased a small game license and again, CO Scheidler was notified and enforcement action was taken.

Stopping for fuel, CO Dan Walzak observed four snowmobiles at the same station filling up their tanks. After filling up the patrol vehicle, CO Walzak asked one of the operators if all of the machines were registered and received an answer of "yes". Checking the machines, CO Walzak determined that the operator's machine had not been registered since 1999. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Kieft received a complaint of recreational trespass. He responded to the scene and located two different sets of drag marks leading to a nearby house. The homeowner was interviewed and he stated that a neighbor had used his driveway to retrieve an antlerless deer over the weekend. However, a search of the homeowner's garage revealed an untagged 6 point buck. When questioned about that deer, the homeowner admitted he had also trespassed to retrieve the buck. CO Kieft followed up the incident by interviewing the other neighbor. The neighbor admitted his friend had shot an antlerless deer on his property over the weekend and they both tracked it onto the complainant's property. The neighbor tagged the deer even though he hadn't killed it and the deer was taken to a local processor. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Kieft assisted Oakland County Sheriff's Department Deputies on a trespass complaint. A hunter was trespassing on the complainant's property when the complainant shouted, "You're on private property!" The hunter yelled back, "Mind your own business!" The hunter continued to drag the deer back onto the adjacent property where he had permission to hunt. After arriving on the scene, the COs contacted the

hunter who still had not tagged the deer. Further investigation revealed that while wildly shooting at a group of deer, the hunter had actually killed two of them. He also admitted to failing to tag a deer he had killed earlier in the season. Enforcement action was taken. Restitution and license revocation are also being sought.

CO Ben Shively was the first officer on scene of a fatal snowmobile accident. The snowmobile was being operated on the public roadway when the accident occurred. Tests showed the operator of the snowmobile and the driver of the mini van he hit were both operating under the influence alcohol.

CO Todd Szyska and PCO Mark Papineau watched a subject fishing at a local marina. He was very busy hustling between the four poles that he had in the water. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Szyska and PCO Mark Papineau contacted an angler coming off of Lake St. Clair. The angler was in possession of 12 yellow perch. When asked to see his fishing license the angler could not produce one. A check through the license system verified he had not purchased a fishing license since 2007. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Linda Scheidler received a complaint of a subject who had purchased a hunting license while revoked. The subject was tracked down and interviewed. He admitted to the violation. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Linda Scheidler followed up on a complaint of a subject baiting deer. The subject, when contacted, stated that he was not hunting over the bait, and that he was just feeding the deer. He was advised of the violation and enforcement action taken.

CO Ben Lasher responded to a complaint of duck hunters in the safety zone of a concerned neighbor. The four subjects were hunting on property where they had permission; however, they were within 100 yards of the complainant's residence. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ron Pinson received a complaint of subjects taking canvasback ducks during the closed season. Ironically, his complainant was a suspect on a waterfowl complaint the previous day. CO Pinson responded and when he arrived on scene, CO John Borkovich was already in the area checking groups of hunters. The COs interviewed the four subjects separately, who at first all denied taking the bird. Through their investigation, the COs found blood on some rocks along the shore and finally got a confession that one of the subjects did shoot a canvasback. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Szyska reports that two snowmobiles went through the ice on Lake St. Clair off of New Baltimore and he is working with the New Baltimore Police Department to make sure the machines are removed.

PCO Mark Papineau and Sgt. Tom Wanless observed a snowmobile illegally operating along power lines in the City of Burton. When the operator saw the patrol truck he turned around and tried to elude the COs. The COs tracked the snowmobile 1.5 miles down the power lines and several side roads, through back yards and finally to a garage. The COs contacted the homeowner who advised the COs that his 15 year old son and his friend were the subjects. The property owner also recognized Sgt. Wanless from an encounter last summer where the same two boys were illegally operating their ORVs. The boys were shocked that the COs were able to track them down. Enforcement action was taken.

While investigating a complaint where a deer was killed in an illegally set snare, CO Linda Scheidler knocked on the door of the suspect's residence. When the subject answered the door and saw the CO, his response was, "I'm taking care of my ticket on Monday". While talking with the subject, CO Scheidler found out that Sgt. Tom Wanless had caught the subject trapping without a license a few weeks earlier. The subject denied all accusations in CO Scheidler's investigation. While a consent search was being done in his trapping shed, CO Scheidler located an unsealed bobcat. The subject confessed to CO Scheidler after a consent search of his vehicle revealed ten snares that were identical to the illegal snare in the deer complaint. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher responded to a call of a dump truck that went through the ice off Harsens Island and caused a chemical spill. Once the company was notified, they quickly responded to clean up the spill.